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BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,
JANUARY 8TH, 1874.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

ADJUTANT GENERAL

OF

MARYLAND,

TRANSMITTED TO THE

Governor and Commander-in-Chief,

In Pursuance of Law,

FOR THE YEAR 1873.

ANNAPOLIS:
S. S. MILLS & L. F. COLTON,

Printers to the House of Delegates.

1874.

REPORT.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

ANNAPOLIS, *December* , 1873.

His Excellency, WM. PINKNEY WHYTE,

Governor of Maryland,

SIR:—In pursuance of law, I have the honor to submit my Report of the present condition of the State Militia, and the operations of this office during the present year, accompanied by the usual annual returns.

The returns of the Militia Force, so far as they relate to the unorganized portion, are only approximately correct, owing to the want of adequate legal provision for the precise ascertainment of that force. The only provision made for this object is found in the first section of Acts 1870, Chap. 182, wherein the Officers of Registration are required to furnish the Adjutant General annually, with a list of all persons composing the Militia in their respective districts.

No returns have ever been received from this source, for the evident reason that a Register of Voters—the only official document with which these officers are concerned—consisting of such citizens of twenty-one years of age and upwards as have entered their names, affords no clue to ascertaining the number of persons liable to military duty, which, with few exceptions, is composed of all able-bodied white male citizens between the ages of eighteen and forty-five.

In the absence of exact statistical information on this point, no better method suggests itself for making out the Annual Report required by law, than to calculate, with the

aid of the census tables, the present population of the several counties, and assume as a ratio of the Militia Force to each population, that which was determined by actual enrollment in 1869. The accompanying returns are constructed on this basis.

Of course the most direct means of ascertaining, from year to year, our available Militia Force, would be best secured by the appointment of Enrolling Officers, but as this seems to be regarded as entailing expenditures not compensated by the results, I would suggest that, following the example of other States, the duty of ascertaining and reporting that force be assigned to some permanent civil officer in each county, other than the Officers of Registration.

The fourth section of the Acts already referred to, contemplate the enrollment and organization of the entire body of Militia in the State. You are aware that no such enrollment nor organization exists, and it would be impracticable to set on foot such an establishment without costly facilities which the law has not provided; nor, indeed, is it believed, whatever was the practice in earlier times, that any serious intention was entertained to carry into effect a measure that would be so little in accord with the spirit and social interests of the present day. I would, therefore, suggest such an amendment of that section as would limit its application to the uniformed Volunteer Forces, except in times of war.

I beg leave to repeat my recommendation of a thorough revision of the Militia Acts of 1870, by which we are now governed. Good laws, supplemented by judicious rules and regulations, reaching details that cannot be conveniently embraced in Statutory provisions, lie at the very foundation of every efficient Militia system. But our own Code, by common confession, is scanty and defective, and far below the measure of our military wants. It will bear no comparison with the wide reaching provisions made for the same end by many of our sister States. Massachusetts, mainly through the encouragement and support and wise providence of her laws, has placed her Volunteer Forces on a footing little short of the standard of regular troops; and the solid and permanent

character of the Volunteer establishment of New York is largely due to enlightened and liberal legislation, directed by the best military minds.

With us, unhappily, in those occasional instances, in which one or more organizations have acquired a marked reputation for skill and discipline, their success is more to be attributed to the individual pride and spirit and self imposed restraints of the members, then to any aid or encouragement from the State.

Under Special Orders, No. 41, (see Exhibit B,) a Board of Officers, consisting of Col. Thos. J. McKaig, A. A. G., and Chief of Staff, 2nd Brigade, Lt. Col. Henry D. Loney, of the 5th Regiment, and Capt. W. P. Zollinger, Co. H., 5th Regiment, has been appointed to draft rules and regulations for the government and discipline of the Maryland National Guard, subject to your approval. That duty has not yet been completed. Its successful accomplishment demands time, considerable labor and research, and the combination of military experience with legal knowledge. The selection of the officers composing the Board has been made with a view to their peculiar fitness for the work assigned to them.

But it is apparent that any rules and regulations that may be devised must conform to, and be controlled and restricted by existing laws, and will necessarily, more or less, share in the defects of those laws. In order, therefore, to secure the best results, I would urge upon you to recommend that the Legislature enlarge the duties of the same Board, by authorizing it to draft a Militia Code to be submitted to the Military Committees. Such a measure would bring the whole subject within its purview, and open the way to enlightened and comprehensive legislation, and the establishment of rules and regulations in strict harmony with any enactments that may be made. I need hardly refer you, in support of this suggestion, to numberless precedent cases in which legislative bodies have committed subjects of a technical nature to professional minds before taking final action.

I would further suggest that, as the labors of the Board do not form a part of regular Militia duty, and must neces-

sarily be protracted, such compensation be provided as may be deemed adequate.

I would earnestly recommend, as a measure of vital interest to the efficiency of our Volunteer Forces, that early steps be taken to arm them all alike with approved modern weapons of the same description and calibre. This is indispensable for uniformity of drill and exercise, and successful military manœuvres and combinations, when the several bodies are moving in co-operation or mutual support.

The 5th Regiment is the only Infantry organization at the present time that is suitably equipped; and it is not creditable to the State that a large portion of her Volunteer Soldiers are still armed with muzzle-loaders—weapons long since superseded by breech-loaders everywhere, and practically obsolete for military purposes, and which place the men who bear them at palpable disadvantage on any occasion of active service. I might even add that, besides the question of physical efficiency, there are moral considerations connected with the equipment of soldiers that should not be overlooked.—There are few minds of any military experience that fail to recognize the fact, that no body of men, however carefully organized and trained, can be thoroughly imbued with self confidence and soldierly pride, when conscious of bearing arms, on which they cannot rely, to maintain their cause and credit in any emergency.

For a Statement of the arms belonging to the State, their number and description, and the present disposition made of them, I refer you to Exhibit C.

In this connection I would respectfully suggest, that early authority be obtained to replace our muzzle-loading muskets with those loading at the breech, to the extent to which this can be effected by the disposal of the former, either by exchange or sale.

It would be advisable also, to invoke authority for the sale of a considerable amount of valueless military property now stored in the Armory at Annapolis and elsewhere, and consisting of obsolete and inferior small arms of every variety, as well as other articles of equipment unfit for issue, most of

which has been accumulating for years. Most of this property has been already condemned by regular inspection, and all of course should pass under the same review before any disposition is made of it. The avails of any sales effected might be applied to the purchase of new arms or other objects meeting your approval.

It would be to the interest of the State that provision be made by law for the regular disposal in future of similar material, when found by inspection to be unfit for issue.

I beg leave to call your attention to the cost and inconvenience attending the requirements of Section 26, of our Military Acts, that all arms and equipments not issued, shall be stored at the Armory of Easton or Annapolis. Both the points designated are so far removed from our military centre, that the cost of transportation to and fro, would become a formidable item of expenditure, and as the State makes no provision for a Custodian at Annapolis, the receipt and delivery of the articles there would be attended with serious embarrassment. So far the provision of that Section have only been partially complied with, owing to the accommodation of the Armories being too limited to admit of the storage of more objects than they now contain.

It will readily occur to you that the city of Baltimore is a far more advantageous locality for a depot of arms and other public stores than the places selected by law. Here the depot could be more readily guarded in times of trouble—the point is more central for all purposes of collection and distribution—the facilities for repair are cheaper and more accessible, and there is greater security against loss by fire.

The most valuable part of the stores now on hand, except the Batteries at the Arsenal at Pikesville, consisting of small arms and accoutrements, blankets and tents, have been placed in depot at the Armory of the 5th Regiment, under the special charge of Brevet-Major E. F. Pontier, Regimental Quartermaster, who kindly volunteered his services. This disposition of the property, besides being the safest, exempts the State from all charge for rent; relieves her of heavy costs

of transportation, and has enabled me to effect an insurance against fire at a moderate premium.

A Schedule of the uniformed Volunteer Forces, constituting the Maryland National Guard, appears in Exhibit D, and the General and Special Orders of any note, issued within the present year, are presented in Exhibits A and B.

I regret to state that the numerical force of the Guard has considerably diminished since the date of my last Report. In the counties, generally, as the terms of service of the several organizations expired, no disposition was evinced to reorganize, chiefly for the reason that the uniforms, with which they had been equipped, had become worn out in service, and there were no means of renewing the supply afforded by our limited appropriation for the support of the Militia.

The 5th Regiment, now in possession of the spacious and elegant Armory granted by the munificence of the city of Baltimore, continues to maintain its high reputation for discipline and efficiency. Under General Orders, No. 8, (Exhibit A,) this regiment proceeded to Cape May, New Jersey, where it arrived on the 24th day of July, and remained nine days in encampment, for camp instruction and field exercises. The soldierly deportment of officers and privates was highly creditable, both to themselves and the State. It is gratifying to add that while at Cape May the regiment was reviewed by the Governors of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Virginia, and elicited marked and general commendation and applause.

The 1st Battalion Infantry, 2nd Brigade, was organized into a regiment under General Orders, No. 7, (Exhibit A,) and has since, for the most part, been newly uniformed. I take great pleasure in stating that, though laboring under many serious disadvantages, among which is the want of a suitable Armony, which the inadequate allowance for rent has prevented me from supplying, this regiment, through the spirit and faithful attendance of its members, and the indefatigable zeal of its Commanding Officers, has attained a high degree of efficiency, and is daily improving in strength and discipline.

The three several Independent Cavalry Companies belonging to the Second Brigade have been embodied in a Battalion under General Orders, No. 3, (Exhibit A.) This Corps is composed almost exclusively of our German fellow-citizens, and I beg leave to bear cordial testimony to the intelligent zeal and spirit with which it is maintained.

The few county organizations that remain consist generally of members engaged in rural avocations, whose homes are widely severed from each other, a condition not favorable to frequent assemblages for drill and exercise, but the duty is sensibly felt of extending to them such assistance and encouragement as the nature of the case admits.

I cannot close this communication without earnestly invoking your aid and influence in impressing upon the General Assembly the just claims the Maryland National Guard has upon its solicitous care and generous support.

The men who compose it are themselves largely taxed for its maintenance, both in time and money. They meet nightly at their Armories for drill and exercise, and consent to weekly levies on their individual means to defray expenses not covered by State allowances, and a considerable portion of the members, engaged as employés in various industrial establishments, turn out on public parades at the cost of their wages for the day. Services rendered at such personal sacrifice should not be undervalued.

But our Guard rests its claims for encouragement and support upon stronger grounds than mere individual considerations. In one sense, there is no institution more intimately connected with the pride, interests and even safety of the Commonwealth. It is when viewed as an armed police force, thoroughly drilled and disciplined, and prompt and efficient to act in sudden emergencies, that its value is entitled to the highest appreciation. It is to this reserved force only we can look in the last resort, when society is agitated by riotous outbreaks beyond the control of the ordinary police, for the maintenance of law and the protection of life and property. In fact the very existence of an armed force in the service of the State, and the exhibition of its strength and efficiency on

public parades, exercise a repressive influence on the disturbing elements that exist in every community, not the less powerful, that it is silent and unseen.

In submitting these brief views, I confidently refer the whole subject to your earnest and favorable consideration.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. H. McBLAIR,

Adjutant General.

MARYLAND VOLUNTEER MILITIA.

EXHIBIT "A."

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, Feb. 17th, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 1. }

Major General Robert H. Carr, Commanding Second Brigade, M. N. G., is hereby directed to parade his command on Saturday, February 22d, the anniversary of the birth of Washington.

By Command of the
Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief,
(Signed.) CHAS. H. McBLAIR,
Adjt. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, March 10th, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 3. }

I. The several Independent Cavalry Companies, "A," "B" and "C," belonging to the Second Brigade, M. N. G., are hereby consolidated into a Battalion, under the designation of First Battalion Cavalry, Second Brigade, M. N. G.

II. Brigadier and Brevet Major General Robert H. Carr, Commanding Second Brigade, M. N. G., will direct the

Commissioned Officers of said Companies, to proceed to the election of Field Officer.

By Command of the
Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.
(Signed.) CHAS. H. McBLAIR,
Adjt. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
Adjutant General's Office,
Annapolis, May 15th 1873

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 4. }

Brevet Major General Robert H. Carr, Commanding the Second Brigade, M. N. G., is hereby directed to parade his Command on Thursday, the 22d inst.

By Command of the
Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.
(Signed.) CHAS. H. McBLAIR,
Adjt. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
Adjutant General's Office,
Annapolis, May 23d, 1873.

GENERAL ORDER }
[No. 5. }

I. The Second Battalion Cavalry, M. N. G., having been reported by its Commanding Officer as entirely disorganized, with no prospect of re-organization, is hereby disbanded.

II. Company Commanders will turn in the arms and accoutrements issued to their several commands, in accordance with Sec. 13 and 18, Acts 1870, Ch. 182, and Sec. 36, G. O. No. 3, series 1870.

III. Brigadier General James Howard, Chief of Artillery, is hereby appointed to receive and receipt for all public property issued to the Battalion.

Communication will be addressed to him at these Headquarters.

By Command of the
Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.
(Signed.) CHAS. H. McBLAIR,
Adjt. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, June 6th, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 6. }

The term of service of Captain Chas. E. Owens', Company M, Third Cavalry, M. N. G., having expired, and the command not having re-organized, it is no longer recognized as part of the Maryland National Guard.

By Command of the
Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.) CHAS. H. McBLAIR,
Adj. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, June 27th, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 7. }

The First Battalion Infantry, Second Brigade, M. N. G., is hereby organized into a Regiment, under the designation of Sixth Regiment, Infantry, Second Brigade, M. N. G.

By Command of the
Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.) CHAS. H. McBLAIR,
Adj. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, July 2d, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 8. }

Colonel J. Stricker Jenkins, Commanding Fifth Regiment, M. N. G., will proceed with his Command to Cape Island, N. J., on Wednesday, the 23d instant, for ten days exercise, in camp and field duties; at the expiration of which

time he will return to Baltimore and make his report to these Head Quarters.

By Command of the
Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.
(Signed.) CHAS. H. McBLAIR,
Adjt. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
Adjutant General's Office,
Annapolis, July 11th, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 9. }

I. The term of service of the Third Regiment Cavalry, M. N. G., having expired, said organization is hereby disbanded.

II. Officers of said Command having charge of public property, will report, without delay, by letter to this office, in order that they may receive instructions in regard to turning in the same.

By Command of the
Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.
J. HOWARD.
Act. Asst. Adjt. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
Adjutant General's Office.
Annapolis, Oct. 20th, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 10. }

Brevet Major General Robert H. Carr, Commanding the Second Brigade, M. N. G., is hereby ordered to parade his Command for Inspection, on Monday, the 27th inst.

By Command of the
Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.
(Signed.) CHAS. H. McBLAIR,
Adjt. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, Oct. 21st, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 11. }

Captain Edward Roberts, Commanding Independent Infantry Company, M. N. G., at Easton, will parade and inspect his command on Monday, the 3d day of November, 1873.

By Command of the
Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.)

CHAS. H. McBLAIR,

Adjt. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis. Oct. 21st, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 12. }

Captain John F. Peterson, Commanding Independent Infantry Company, at Hill's Landing, will parade and inspect his command on Monday, the 3d day of November, 1873.

By Command of the
Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.)

CHAS. H. McBLAIR,

Adjt. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, Nov. 15th, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 13. }

It having been reported to this office by Colonel Clarence Peters, Commanding Sixth Regiment, M. N. G., that Company G, of said Regiment, has failed to uniform; has neglected to drill for the last two months, and is in a disor-

ganized condition, the said Company is hereby disbanded and no longer a member of the Maryland National Guard.

By Command of the

Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.)

CHAS. H. McBLAIR,

Adj. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, Nov. 15th, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }

No. 14. }

Captain Thos. S. Nutwell, Commanding Independent Company Infantry, will parade his command for inspection and review, on Monday, the 24th inst.

By Command of the

Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.)

CHAS. H. McBLAIR,

Adj. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, Nov. 15th, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }

No. 15. }

Captain John Brown, Commanding Independent Company Cavalry, will parade his command for inspection and review, on Monday, the 2th inst.

By Command of the

Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.)

CHAS. H. McBLAIR,

Adj. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, Dec. 5th, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }

No. 16. }

I. The term of service of the "Somerset Rifles," Indepen-

dent Infantry Company, having expired, without re-organization, the same is hereby disbanded.

H. Captain J. R. Wilson, late Company Commander, will turn over all public property issued to his command to General Jas. Howard, Chief of Artillery, and A. A. G., addressing him at this office.

By Command of the

Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.)

CHAS. H. McBLAIR,

Adj. General.

EXHIBIT "B."

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, Feb. 28th, 1873.

SPECIAL ORDERS }
No. 4. }

Permission is hereby granted to the following named officers to visit Washington with their Commands, on the 4th proximo, for the purpose of taking part in the ceremony attending the inauguration of the President of the United States.

Colonel J. Stricker Jenkins, Fifth Regiment, Second Brigade, M. N. G., Major Frank Y. McDonald, First Battalion Infantry, Second Brigade, M. N. G.

By Command of the

Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.)

CHAS. H. McBLAIR,

Adj. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, March 3d, 1873.

SPECIAL ORDERS }
No. 6. }

Captain R. A. Cashmyer, Company A, Independent Company Cavalry, Second Brigade, M. N. G., is hereby granted permission to visit Washington on the 4th inst., with his command, for the purpose of taking part in the ceremony attending the inauguration of the President of the United States.

By Command of the

Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.)

CHAS. H. McBLAIR,

Adjt. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office.

Annapolis, March 28th, 1873.

SPECIAL ORDERS }
No. 7. }

General James Howard, Chief of Artillery, will inspect Independent Cavalry Companies B and C, Second Brigade, M. N. G., and report to these Head Quarters, their respective conditions as to arms and equipments, uniforms, drills and general efficiency.

By Command of the

Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.)

CHAS. H. McBLAIR,

Adjt. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, May 2d, 1873.

SPECIAL ORDERS }
No. 9. }

Brigadier General James Howard, Chief of Artillery, will inspect the several Companies of Third Battalion Cavalry,

Major Gatch, and report to these Head Quarters, their respective conditions as to arms and equipments, uniforms, drills and general efficiency.

By Command of the
Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.) CHAS. H. McBLAIR,
Adj. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, August 23d, 1873.

SPECIAL ORDERS }
No. 33. }

I. Major Pontier, Quartermaster Fifth Regiment, M. N. G., will take charge of the tents and all the camp equipage belonging to the State, now deposited with Messrs. Grafflin & Co., South St., Baltimore.

II. He will also take charge of the State arms and accoutrements, now in the custody of Mr. Geogre Ashton, who has orders to deliver the same at the Armory of the Fifth Regiment.

By Command of the
Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.) CHAS. H. McBLAIR,
Adj. General.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

Adjutant General's Office,

Annapolis, Oct. 17th, 1873.

SPECIAL ORDERS }
No. 41. }

I. Colonel Thomas J. McKaig, A. A. G. and Chief of Staff, Second Brigade, M. N. G., Lieutenant Colonel Henry D. Loney, Fifth Regiment, and Captain W. P. Zollinger, Company H, Fifth Regiment, are hereby appointed a Board to draw up rules and regulations for the control and discipline of the Maryland National Guard.

II. The said Board shall consider as within the scope of their duties the whole subject of Military Courts—their Constitution—the extent of their jurisdiction—the modes of procedure—the penalties they shall be empowered to inflict—and the most accepted legal authority for their government.

III. The Board will report the result of their labors at the earliest practicable day, to the Adjutant General, to be submitted to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

By Command of the

Governor and Com'dr-in-Chief.

(Signed.)

CHAS. H. McBLAIR,

Ajt. General.

EXHIBIT "D."

Table of Forces, Maryland National Guard.

independent,
Talbot county.

EXHIBIT C.

Return of Military Property, showing where Deposited and to whom Issued.

[illegible]

STATE OF MARYLAND,

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Annapolis, Dec. 31st, 1873.

EXHIBIT "D."

Table of Forces, Maryland National Guard.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Annapolis, Dec. 31st, 1873.

STAFF OF THE GOVERNOR AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF :

Major General Chas. H. McBlair, Adjutant General

Brigadier General Thos. S. Rett, Inspector General.

Brigadier General Ferdinand C. Latrobe, Judge Advocate General.

Brigadier General Jas. C. Clarke, Quartermaster General.

Brigadier General Gilmor Meredith, Commissary General.

Brigadier General Riggins Buckler, Surgen General.

Brigadier General George S. Brown, Paymaster General.

Brigadier General A. Parks Winchester, Chief Engineer.

Brigadier General Thos. W. Campbell, Chief of Ordinance.

Brigadier General John N. Carroll, Chief of Cavalry.

Brigadier General James Howard, Chief of Artillery.

Colonel J. A. Weston, Aid-de-Camp.

Colonel Henry Taylor, Aid-de-Camp.

Colonel Levin L. Dirickson, Aid-de-Camp.

Fifth Regiment Infantry, Col. }

J. Stricker Jenkins.

Sixth Regiment Infantry, Col. }

Clarence Peters.

First Battalion Cavalry, Major }

Harry Gilmor.

Second Brigade, Brigadier
and Brevet Major General
Robt. H. Carr, Command-
ing, Baltimore city.

Independent Company Cavalry, Captain Frank A. Bond,
Anne Arundel county.

Independent Company Cavalry, Captain R. Louis Brown,
Anne Arundel county.

Independent Company Infantry, Captain Thomas S. Nut-
well, Anne Arundel county.

Independent Company Infantry, Captain John F. Peterson,
Prince George's county.

Independent Company Infantry, Captain Edward Roberts,
Talbot county.

